

St Andrew's Church, Hurstbourne Priors

**Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council**

for the year ended 31st December 2022

Incumbent

The Rev David Roche

Bank

National Westminster Bank
Andover Branch
Bridge Street
Andover
SP10 1BD

Independent examiner

Mr Les Burrows
27 Hurstbourne Priors
Whitchurch
Hampshire
RG28 7SE

2022 Report and Accounts

for the Parochial Church Council of St Andrew's Church Hurstbourne Priors

Aims and purposes

Hurstbourne Priors' Parochial Church Council (PCC), working with the incumbent the Rev David Roche, has the responsibility of promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church and the associated churchyard of St Andrew's.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC seeks to serve the religious, spiritual and pastoral needs of the entire Parish of Hurstbourne Priors, administering to the needs of regular and traditional worshippers, families and children, offering Occasional Offices, Outreach services and going out into the Community to reach out to those at the fringes of the Church. It works constructively with the other Parishes in the new Bright Waters Benefice, which was legally constituted in May 2022, to share good practice and to support one another in their mission.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church and churchyard.

Achievements and Performance

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at St Andrews and with the Incumbent offers a range of services designed to appeal to both established and traditional churchgoers and those at the fringes of religion. We have worked hard to build communications with as many villagers as possible to let them know what is going on and that they are welcome at any church event. Working in conjunction with local parents, activities for children at Sunday school are offered once a month and are increasingly popular with 16 children attending in December at the Carol Service. There has been an increasing number of lay led services which have been well received.

A Harvest lunch was held in October in aid of the Mityana Projects Trust in Uganda. Church members welcomed 42 villagers to the annual "Safari Supper" with the aim of introducing members of the community, particularly newcomers, to one another. A Fundraising Dinner for 60 had to be postponed to January 2023 because of the sad death of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth. There was an overwhelming response to a request for donations of clothing and to be taken to those affected by the war in Ukraine. A performance in the church by a wonderful string trio The Wondering Fiddlers in March proved popular. Simon Mattison undertook a Fundraising Pilgrimage around the Benefice which may prove inspirational to others.

Worship and Prayer

In 2022, we were able to resume regular worship in church including traditional services such as Holy Communion and Benefice Evensong and outreach services such as Songs of Praise Services with a band of local musicians, the Annual Pets Service, a Platinum Jubilee Evensong, the Carol Service and Carols and Nativity at the Pavilion. We had an organist at most services.

The pattern of services varies from month to month depending on the Benefice clergy available but tries to include a Holy Communion service, a Benefice Evensong, a Morning Praise service and then often a lay led service including the Songs of Praise service 3 times a year. The Benefice zoom service continues on line for those unable to come into church.

The Lent course proved so popular that it continued to meet after Easter.

The Church Electoral Roll remains at 37 residents and 5 non-residents. The average Sunday attendance was 15 (21). In 2022 there were: 5 (2) baptisms, 1 (2) marriage and 3 (2) funerals at St Andrew's (figures for 2021 are shown in brackets).

Incumbency

On 1 August 2022 The Rev David Roche became the vicar of the new combined Benefice of Bright Waters consisting of nine churches. Sadly, in July 2022, Rev Helen O'Sullivan who had been assistant to Rev David Roche left the Benefice for a new career in licensed Ministry teaching. The process to appoint Rev Helen's successor took place in late 2022 and Rev Russell Smart will take office in March 2023.

Deanery Synod

The PCC has one representative on the Whitchurch Deanery Synod in addition to the Incumbent. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. Recently, meetings have informed the Attendees of the purpose of General Synod and how the voice of the Laity is heard there, aired the challenges facing the Deanery due to the loss of 21 Stipendiary posts and vacancies in staffing and the financial deficit, the issue of how the Church of England approaches Racial Justice, reports on the church in Mityana, Uganda, the role of the church in deprived communities and celebrated the 46 Self-Supporting Ministers (SSMs) brought to ordination as deacons and Priests.

The church and churchyard

The church was open to visitors between April and October. We have involved Parishioners in the maintenance of the church and churchyard creating community activities in the form of the Annual Clean-up, a Raking Party and the "Adopt a Shrub" in the churchyard to keep the churchyard tidy. With this and an excellent regular Contractor, the churchyard is looking neat.

Unfortunately, the contractor who has maintained the boiler for many years has ceased trading but Edward Bays Ltd have now been appointed from Swindon to take on the job.

Pastoral Care

During 2022, pastoral visits were carried out by members of the clergy and the laity.

The churchwardens and a growing team of Sidesmen and women are endeavouring to offer refreshments after every service to offer a time at which Parishioners and indeed those from around the Benefice can be welcomed to chat and support one another.

Mission and Evangelism

The "Hill & Valley" parish magazine continues to be distributed by volunteers to all who live in the original Bright Waters Benefice (Woodcott, St Mary Bourne, Hurstbourne Priors and Longparish). The magazine keeps our parishioners informed of church activities. It is now being delivered to the residents as they move into the 40+ new houses built at St Mary's Hill significantly extending the Parish. We have extended a specific welcome to the new Residents. Our regular emails also try to keep as many of the village for whom we have contact details informed of church activities.

As mentioned above, we try to offer a wide variety of services to cater both for regular attendees and to put on an increasing number of services and other outreach events to make welcome all villagers into the church.

The PCC adopted a new Mission Plan in December 2022, details of which are shown above in Objectives.

Financial Review

The total receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds were £26,567 of which £8,883 were from church fundraising activities including the very successful May Fair. Restricted donations of £1,060 were also received along with fundraising for the restricted funds of £3,452. Further details can be found in the Financial Statements attached to this report.

£26,552 was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry from St Andrew's Church in 2022. This includes the contribution of £15,566 to the Diocesan Common Mission Fund, which largely provides the stipends, housing and training for the clergy. The sum that the Churches in the Deanery have to find is shared between the Churches according to a formula that is based mainly on a head count of the congregations and the affluence rating of the community. Payment of the full amount of the Common Mission Fund was completed by year end.

We continue to benefit from the Parish Giving Scheme where Gift Aid donations are managed through the Diocese of Gloucester. The number of planned givers totals 14, with 12 of these donors using the Parish Giving scheme.

The net result for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £15 for unrestricted funds and £3,929 for restricted funds. Adding the bank balance brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balance carried forward on 31 December 2022 was £9,799 on unrestricted funds and £19,759 on restricted funds.

Reserves Policy

An updated Reserves Policy was adopted by the PCC in 2018. The policy states that the PCC will endeavour to maintain a minimum balance in the general account of sufficient funds to cover three months' contribution to the Common Mission Fund. Annual surpluses of unrestricted funds will be held in the existing current account.

Volunteers

We are fortunate to have had more and more help from Volunteers who support the activities of the church in a wide variety of ways. This includes the PCC members, a great team of sidesmen and women, the wonderful flower arrangers, planning and producing service sheets and taking services, running Sunday school, opening and closing the church in the summer months, participating in the Spring clean-up of the church and churchyard, fund-raising and providing generous funding and preparing the church for services amongst other activities.

Sadly, the number of regular bell ringers in the village has dwindled to the point where we are now unable to ring our wonderful peal of bells without assistance from other villages.

The PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who cheerfully carry out these duties.

Inventory of Contents of the church

The contents of the church remains as listed in the comprehensive Record produced by the Arts Society Church Recorders in 2020. There have been no additions. There was one breakage of a glass water flask used for Communion, a replacement flask is being sought.

Safeguarding

There were no safeguarding issues to report during the year. Members of the PCC are strongly encouraged to complete the necessary safeguarding training and we continue to monitor our compliance with this requirement.

Risk Assessment

A risk assessment for the church was carried out last year and its recommendations have been implemented. The risk assessment will be reviewed annually.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's the membership of the PCC normally consists of the incumbent, two churchwardens, and 6 members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The full PCC met six times during the year.

The Standing Committee is the only committee required by law and is composed of the Vicar, two Churchwardens, the Secretary and the Treasurer. The two churchwardens met six times a year to plan PCC meetings and other church activities and events.

Administrative Information

St Andrew's Church is situated in the middle of Hurstbourne Priors, but is surrounded by farm land with an avenue leading to it from the road through Hurstbourne Priors. For the purpose of finding it by Sat Nav enter: St Andrew's Church, Hurstbourne Priors, Whitechurch, Hampshire, RG28 7SB. It is part of the Diocese of Winchester within the Church of England. In July 2022, the parishes of St Andrew's, Longparish, St Mary Bourne and Woodcott joined with the parishes of Whitechurch, Tufton, Litchfield and Barton Stacey to form the new enlarged Bright Waters Benefice. The correspondence address for Hurstbourne Priors PCC is: The Old Parsonage, Hurstbourne Priors, Whitechurch, Hampshire, RG28 7SB. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity currently excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex officio members:

Incumbent: Rev David Roche

Churchwardens:

Mr Martin Briant-Evans (retired March 2022)

Mrs Fenella Williams

Mrs Ann Orr, (elected March 2022) and Deanery Synod Representative and Secretary,

Elected members:

Mr Edward Beasley

Mr Ian Bradley (elected March 2022)

Mr Charles Ekins

Mrs Jane Lavers (elected March 2022)

Hurstbourne Priors PCC
 Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022
 Receipts and Payments Accounts

	<i>Notes</i>	Unrestricted fund	Unrestricted designated fund	Restricted fund	Total 2022	<i>Total 2021</i>
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts:						
Planned giving		7,035	-	-	7,035	7,452
Collections at services		2,862	-	-	2,862	3,369
Donations		4,410	-	1,060	5,470	7,198
Gift Aid recovered		1,759	-	-	1,759	3,807
Total voluntary receipts		16,066	-	1,060	17,126	21,826
Activities for generating funds						
Fundraising	3a	8,883	-	3,452	12,335	8,853
Church Activities	3b	1,618	-	186	1,804	1,629
Total Receipts		26,567	-	4,698	31,265	32,308
PAYMENTS						
Church Activities:						
Common Mission Fund		15,566	-	-	15,566	13,685
Clergy and Staffing costs	3c	2,287	-	-	2,287	2,384
Church running expenses	3d	8,329	-	-	8,329	8,311
Mission giving and donations		370	-	-	370	946
Maintenance and repair of fabric	3e	-	-	357	357	6,384
Fundraising costs		-	-	412	412	541
Bank charges		-	-	-	-	1
Total Payments		26,552	-	769	27,321	32,252
Excess of Receipts over payments		15	-	3,929	3,944	56
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan		9,784	-	15,830	25,614	25,558
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec		9,799	-	19,759	29,558	25,614

Hurstbourne Priors PCC
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Notes	Unrestricted fund	Unrestricted designated fund	Restricted fund	Total 2022	Total 2021
Cash Funds					
Bank Accounts	9,799	-	19,759	29,558	25,614
Other monetary assets					
Income tax recoverable	1,287	-	1,200	2,487	1,504

The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

Restricted	Bal B/Fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Bal C/Fwd
Fabric Fund	12,263	4,452	(412)	-	16,303
Organ Fund	1,155	-	(262)	-	893
Roof Fund	1,295	-	-	-	1,295
Bell Fund	1,117	246	(95)	-	1,268
	15,830	4,698	(769)	-	19,759

Notes:

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- 2.a. The Fabric Fund represents accumulated donations and appeals for fabric maintenance, which can only be spent for that purpose.
- 2.b. The Organ Fund represents funds raised for the repair and maintenance of the organ, which can only be spent for that purpose.
- 2.c. The Roof Fund represents grants and donations for roof repairs which can only be spent for that purpose.
- 2.d. The Bell Fund represents accumulated funds raised for the repair and maintenance of the bells, which can only be spent for that purpose.

Hurstbourne Priors PCC
 Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

3. Further Analysis of Receipts and Payments

	Unrestricted fund	Unrestricted designated fund	Restricted fund	Total 2022	Total 2021
RECEIPTS					
a. Fundraising					
May Fair	8,300	-	-	8,300	1,357
Annual dinner	-	-	3,127	3,127	6,391
Concerts and events	583	-	325	908	990
Sale of miscellaneous items	-	-	-	-	115
	8,883	-	3,452	12,335	8,853
b. Church activities					
Bellringers	-	-	186	186	-
Fees for weddings and funerals	1,618	-	-	1,618	1,629
	1,618	-	-	1,804	1,629
PAYMENTS					
c. Clergy and staffing costs					
Benefice expenses	280	-	-	280	888
Costs of services	2,007	-	-	2,007	1,496
	2,287	-	-	2,287	2,384
d. Church running expenses					
Church building running expenses	4,629	-	-	4,629	4,369
Church repairs and maintenance	3,700	-	-	3,700	3,942
	8,329	-	-	8,329	8,311
e. Maintenance and repair of fabric					

Bell rope repairs	-	-	95	95	-
Organ repairs	-	-	262	262	6,384
	-	-	357	357	6,384